

Sl.No. State/Union Territory	No. of SEZ proposals pending
8. Punjab	04
9. Madhya Pradesh	09
10. Rajasthan	05
11. Tamil Nadu	33
12. West Bengal	22
13. Assam	01
14. Chhattisgarh	01
15. Karnataka	36
16. Kerala	07
17. Bihar	01
18. Gujarat	18
19. Haryana	23
20. Uttar Pradesh	17
21. Chandigarh	01
TOTAL:	250

#### **Appraisal of implementation of WTO agreements**

6. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made appraisal of the benefits accrued to and the losses suffered by the country after the implementation of the WTO agreements a decade ago; and

(b) the details of increased imports in the country in the context of accumulation of vast amounts of foreign exchange and increase in exports during the same period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH):

(a) and (b) Membership of the World Trade Organisation (WTO) results in rights and obligations for its members, including India. Such rights and obligations accruing to a Member of WTO, include national treatment and most favoured nation treatment for a member's goods and services in other WTO Member countries. Each Member is also expected to undertake specific commitments under different agreements of the WTO. WTO Agreements have benefited India and other developing countries in as much as a rule based, transparent and predictable multilateral trading system facilitates trade. The rule-based system provided by WTO also protects Members from unilateral action by stronger trading partners.

Specific commitments had to be implemented in a phased manner by India. In respect of agricultural products, reduction of tariffs to agreed levels was to be effected in a phased manner ending in 2004. For non-agricultural products (other than textiles and clothing products), the tariff reduction commitments were to be completed over a six year period ending 2000. In respect of textiles and clothing products, the implementation was over a ten year period ending 31 st December, 2004.

The WTO is a forum for continuous negotiations and recognizing the need to achieve progressive trade liberalization, broad-based negotiations were launched through the Doha Ministerial Declaration of November, 2001. Although these negotiations under the Doha Work Programme were suspended in July, 2006, in accordance with the decision of the Trade Negotiations Committee (TNC) of the WTO of 16 November, 2006, the work in the various negotiating groups under the TNC has resumed across all areas of the Doha Work Programme. India has been participating actively in these negotiations with a view to secure its national interests at each stage of the negotiations.

In view of the phased implementation of the commitments in WTO and in view of the fact that trade reforms were implemented in India to a great extent on autonomous basis along with other economic reforms, based on felt need, it is not possible to isolate the specific benefits or losses on account of liberalization based on India's membership of the WTO. However, the impact of various agreements/commitments undertaken in the WTO by India on its trade is continuously factored in by the Government in adapting its trade policy regime. Since the establishment of the WTO, India's trade has been going up continuously, both in the merchandise goods category as well as commercial services. Total merchandise goods

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exports of India have increased from US\$ 26.33 billion in 1994-95 to US\$ 102.7 billion in 2005-06 (provisional) whereas total merchandise imports (excluding petroleum products) grew from US\$ 22.72 billion to US\$ 105.1 billion (provisional) during the same period. Similarly, India's total commercial services trade increased from US\$ 14.06 billion in 1994 to US\$ 80.58 billion in 2004.

#### **EOUs in Andhra Pradesh**

7. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether cent per cent export oriented industries have been set up in Andhra Pradesh by Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof during the last two years;

(c) the names of the industries/firms set up or approved to be set up; and

(d) the details of the facilities provided to cent per cent export-oriented industries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (c) The Government does not set up Export-Oriented Units (EOUs). The Units are set up by the private, individuals/corporate bodies with the approval of the Government. A detailed list of units set up under EOU scheme in Andhra Pradesh between the period 1.4.2004 and 31.3.2006 is given in the enclosed Statement (*See* below).

(d) EOUs are given a package of incentives which includes income tax exemption, duty free import of capital goods, raw materials and components; exemption from Central Excise duty and other levies on local purchases; deemed export benefits on capital goods and other inputs provided to the EOUs by Domestic Tariff Area suppliers and reimbursement of Central Sales Tax paid on the purchase of goods.